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(IT). ARMELLIN, Alberto [IT/IT]; Via Sofratta 9,
I-31029 VITTORIO VENETO (IT).

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(74) Agent: GERVASI, Gemma; NOTARBARTOLO & GER-
VASI S.p.A.. Corso di Porta Vittoria 9. I-20122 MILAN
(IT).

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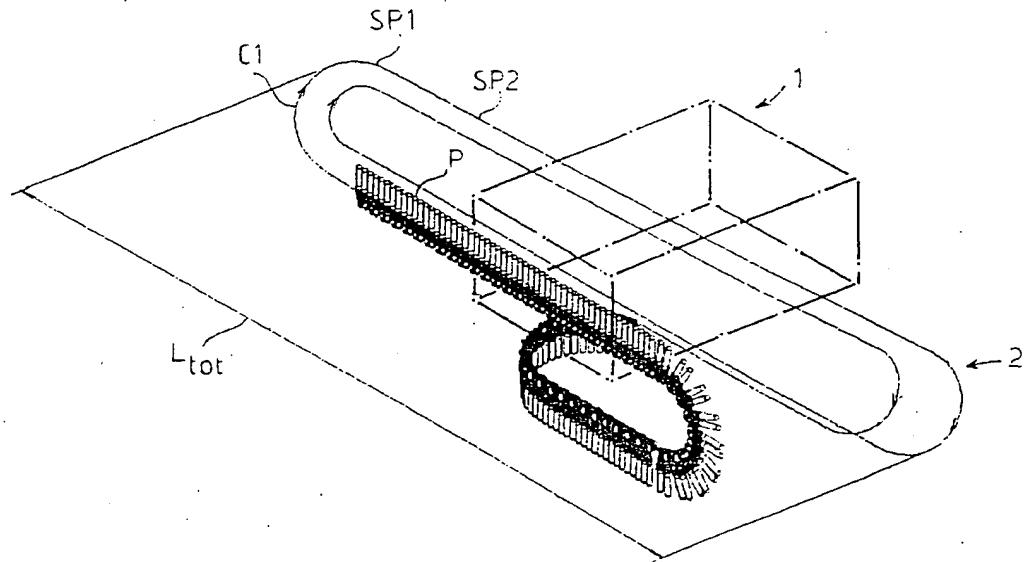
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(54) Title: PLANT AND METHOD FOR THERMALLY CONDITIONING PLASTIC ITEMS



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(57) Abstract: The method for thermally conditioning preforms in accordance with the invention comprises the following steps: - Placing the preforms on a chain conveyor (2); - Conveying the preforms through a first thermal conditioning stage (1) and subjecting them to a first heating or cooling heat exchange; - Removing the preforms from the first thermal conditioning stage and holding them outside for a predetermined amount of time in order to redistribute the temperature inside the preforms; - Subjecting the preforms to at least a second heating or cooling heat exchange in a second thermal conditioning stage (1) or in the first thermal conditioning stage. The invention also concerns the plants for heating or cooling preforms in accordance with the above method.

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